

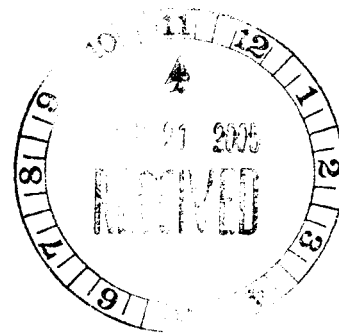
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December 21, 2005



Honorable Vernon A. Williams
Surface Transportation Board
1925 K Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20423-0001

**Re: STB Docket No. AB-6 (Sub-No. 405X); BNSF Railway Company --Abandonment
Exemption-- in Jefferson, Gage, and Pawnee Counties, NE**

Dear Secretary Williams:

BNSF Railway Company (BNSF) previously filed a petition for exemption under 49 U.S.C. 10502 from the prior approval requirements of 49 U.S.C. 10903 to abandon a line of railroad extending between milepost 57.80, near Pawnee, and milepost 117.03, near Endicott, a distance of approximately 59.23 miles, in Jefferson, Gage, and Pawnee Counties, NE. Pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 10502(b), the Board served and published a notice in the Federal Register (68 FR 67508) on December 2, 2003.

By decision served February 17, 2005, the Board granted BNSF's request for an extension of time to file a notice of consummation until December 31, 2005. Effective March 10, 2005, BNSF consummated the abandonment of that portion of the line between milepost 114.91 and 117.03. Accordingly, the consummation extension here relates to the remainder of the line between milepost 57.80, near Pawnee, and milepost 114.91, near Endicott, a distance of approximately 57.11 miles, in Jefferson, Gage, and Pawnee Counties, NE.

Winter weather conditions have hampered the ability to conduct salvage activities. Accordingly, BNSF requests an extension of the consummation deadline until July 1, 2006.

Please acknowledge receipt of this letter by date stamping the enclosed copy of this letter and returning it to me in the enclosed self-addressed stamped envelope.

Ten (10) additional copies of this letter are enclosed for the Board's use and distribution.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (202) 295-4024.

Sincerely,

Sidney L. Strickland, Jr.
SLS/cac

cc: James Gallegos
Jerry Johnson
Richard Batie
Dalen Wintermute